

1 **Rule 15-703. Qualifications for Licensure as a Licensed Paralegal Practitioner.**

2 (a) **Requirements of Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Applicants.** The burden of proof is on  
3 the Applicant to establish by clear and convincing evidence that she or he:

4 (a)(1) has paid the prescribed application fees;

5 (a)(2) has either been granted a Limited Time Waiver under Rule 15-705 or has timely  
6 filed the required Complete Application for a Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Applicant  
7 in accordance with Rule 15-707;

8 (a)(3) is at least 21 years old;

9 (a)(4) has-either:

10 (a)(4)(A) graduated with a First Professional Degree in law from an  
11 Approved Law School;

12 (a)(4)(B) graduated with an Associate's Degree in paralegal studies from  
13 an Accredited School or Accredited Program;

14 (a)(4)(C) graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in paralegal studies from  
15 an Accredited School or Accredited Program;

16 (a)(4)(D) graduated with a Master's Degree in legal studies or equivalent that is  
17 offered through an Approved Law School;

18 (a)(4)(E) obtained either the Certified Paralegal (CP or CLA) credential from the  
19 National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA); the Professional Paralegal (PP)  
20 credential from the National Association of Legal Professionals (NALS); or the  
21 Registered Paralegal (RP) credential from the National Federation of Paralegal  
22 Associations (NFPA).

23 (a)(5) if the applicant does not have a First Professional Degree from an Approved Law  
24 School, the applicant must have 1500 hours of Substantive Law-Related Experience  
25 within the last 3 years, including 500 hours of Substantive Law-Related Experience in  
26 temporary separation, divorce, parentage, cohabitant abuse, civil stalking, custody and  
27 support, and name change if the Applicant is to be licensed in that area, or 100 hours of  
28 Substantive Law-Related Experience in forcible entry and detainer or debt collection if

29 the Applicant is to be licensed in those areas.

30 (a)(6) has successfully passed the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Ethics Examination;

31 (a)(7) has successfully passed the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Examination(s) for the

32 practice area(s) in which the Applicant seeks licensure;

- 33 (a)(8) is of good moral character and satisfies the requirements of Rule 15-708;
- 34 (a)(9) has a proven record of ethical, civil and professional behavior; and
- 35 (a)(10) complies with the provisions of Rule 15-716 concerning licensing and  
enrollment
- 36 fees.
- 37 (b) If the Applicant has not graduated with a First Professional Degree in law from an  
approved law school, the Applicant must:
- 38 (b)(1) have taken a specialized course of instruction approved by the Board in  
39 professional ethics for Licensed Paralegal Practitioners; and
- 40 (b)(2) have taken a specialized course of instruction approved by the Board in  
each specialty area in which the Applicant seeks to be licensed.
- 41 (c) An individual who has been disbarred or suspended in any jurisdiction may not apply  
for licensure as a Paralegal Practitioner.

*Effective December 7, 2020.*